

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 and 11-20 are pending.

The Examiner asserts that the present claims lack unity of invention. The Examiner requires Applicants to elect as between the following Groups:

- A. Those claims (claims 1-2, 11-14) concerned with the numerical values associated with the birefringent film(s); and
- B. Claims (claims 15-20) concerned with parallel/perpendicular laminates.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group A. Claims 1-2 and 11-14 are readable thereon.

According to Rule 13.2, the requirement for unity of invention "shall be fulfilled only when there is a technical relationship among those inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features. The expression 'special technical features' shall mean those technical features that define a contribution which each of the claimed inventions, considered as a whole, makes over the prior art."

Applicants respectfully submit that the requirement for the "special technical feature" is the subject matter which is common to all claims and is described in the 1st twelve lines of claim 1. This subject matter amounts to a contribution over the prior art. As such, there is unity of invention and rejoinder of Group A and Group B is respectfully requested.

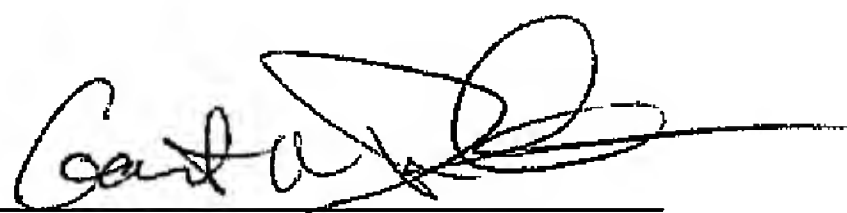
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Garth M. Dahlen, Reg. No. 43,575, at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated:

SEP 05 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Garth M. Dahlen

Registration No.: 43,575

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant